THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) Cheating, molestation, beating, fraud etc. is a law and order subject of the State/U.T. Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism in order to inculcate confidence in tourists visiting India, regularly takes up reported cases with the concerned authorities on top priority basis.

As per information available the number of tourist complaints during the last three years is as under:—

Year	No. of Complaints
1997	117
1998	100
1999	103

Development of tourism in NE region

296. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of integrated development plan formulated for North-East as envisaged in PM's new initiative for North Eastern Region 1996 indicating the list of the tourist circuits already finalised/operated;

(b) the project-wise amount allocated, utilized and achievements made during the last three years; and

(c) the details of investment proposed for development of tourism infrastructure during Ninth Plan in the region?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) As per the Prime Minister's initiatives on the North East, The Department of Tourism has taken the following steps to promote and develop tourism in the North Eastern region which also includes the travel circuit: Guwahati-Kaziranga-Shillong-Tawang

- 10% or the plan budget of the Department of Tourism has been earmarked for development of North East region.
- The Department of tourism has set up a Task Force on the North East and the recommendations of the Task Force are being followed up for development of tourism in these areas.

- A chapter of Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management has recently been opened at Guwahati.
- A full-fledged Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology has been set up at Shillong.
- A video film on tourist attractions for North East has been produced by Ministry of Tourism in order to give wide publicity to the region. This is being screened by Air India in their flights.
- North Eastern States are given free booth in the World's largest tourism fair ITB Berlin.
- Financial Assistance for promotion of Fairs and Festivals is also being provided to North Eastern States every year on continuing basis.
- North Eastern States are given a special focus in the Marketing Conference of Overseas Offices of the Ministry and all the overseas offices are giving due publicity to the North East States for the promotion of tourism in the region.

(b) and (c) During the first 3 years of the Ninth Plan i.e. 1997-2000, the Department of Tourism has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 4874.33 lakhs for 230 projects in consultation with State Governments in North Eastern region including Sikkim.

Profits from tourism sector

297. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action plan finalised and formulated by the Government for domestic an external tourism in the NER States paticularly in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) the details of profit from the tourism sector during the last three years, State-wise/year-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for development of tourism sector?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (A) (I) Allocation of 10% of Plan Funds for promotion and development of tourism in the North Eastern States including Arunachal Pradesh.

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